

# Public univ teachers resume strike for 3 days

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Teachers of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology observe half-day strike on the campus in the capital on Tuesday, the first day of a three-day strike of the teachers of public universities across the country demanding the cancellation of the universal pension scheme notification. | Sony Ramany

Teachers of the country’s different public universities on Tuesday resumed the half-day work abstention under a three-day protest demanding the cancellation of the universal pension scheme notification for them, terming it as discriminatory.

The strike is scheduled to be observed till tomorrow.



Examinations and emergency activities will be exempt from this strike.

The teachers have threatened to go for complete work abstention in the country's public universities from July 1 if the scheme is not withdrawn by June 30.

On June 30, the teachers are scheduled to observe a full-day work abstention.

New Age correspondents in different public universities and districts confirmed that the teachers observed the pre-scheduled work abstention with the demands of withdrawal of the universal pension scheme, continuation of the previous pension scheme and introduction of a separate salary structure for the teachers with professional benefits.

Earlier on March 13, the finance ministry in a notification said that all officers and employees who joined the service of all autonomous, self-governing, nationalised, statutory or similar organisations and their subordinate institutions on or after July 1, 2024, would be brought under the universal pension scheme.

Soon after the notification, the public university teachers started staging protests, and at the first half of this month they observed half-day work abstention.

Dhaka University correspondent reported that the leaders of the Dhaka University Teachers' Association and the Federation of Bangladesh University Teachers' Association on Tuesday took up positions in front of the main gate of the university's arts faculty.

The DUTA president Professor Md Nizamul Hoque Bhuiyan said that they would observe a full day work abstention on June 30.

He also added that if their demands would not be met by June 30, they would observe a complete work abstention from July 1.

Jahangirnagar University correspondent reported that under the banner of JU Teachers' Association, the teachers staged a sit-in programme in front of the university's social sciences faculty, demanding the reinstatement of the previous pension plan.

The JUTA general secretary Professor Shahed Rana said that scheduled exams would be held during the three-day half-day work abstention.

The JUTA president Professor Motahar Hossain warned of halting scheduled examinations after June 1.

Teachers of Jagannath University and Khulna University of Engineering and Technology also confirmed that the teachers observed half-day work abstention in the universities along with other public universities.

United News of Bangladesh reported that teachers of Bangladesh Agricultural University observed a half-day work abstention on the day, the first working day after the 12-day Eid vacation.

According to a statement issued by the Teachers' Association general secretary Professor Tanvir Rahman, teachers will also observe work abstention from 8:00am to 1:00pm on June 26 and 27.